

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10
EB-08 COME-00 DOE-15 SOE-02 HA-05 MCT-01 CIAE-00
DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
/140 W

-----032033 300202Z /23

O 300048Z MAR 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0360

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01160

FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS: OVIP (YOUNG, ANDREW)
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF MARCH 29
MEDIA REACTION.

2. PRESIDENTIAL TRIP. A.P. REPORTED FROM CARACAS MARCH 29
THAT PRESIDENT CARTER IN MAJOR ADDRESS TO VENEZUELAN
NATIONAL CONGRESS SAID MAJOR PETROLEUM EXPORTING NATIONS
MUST SHARE THEIR WEALTH WITH POOR NATIONS "TO MEET THE
HUMAN NEEDS OF THE WORLD'S PEOPLE." PRESIDENT URGED RICH
AND POOR NATIONS TO COOPERATE IN DRIVE TO FIGHT INFLATION,
CREATE JOBS, AND RAISE LIVING STANDARDS. HE CALLED FOR
INCREASED FLOW OF CAPITAL TO DEVELOPING NATIONS, A MORE
OPEN SYSTEM OF WORLD TRADE, MODERATION OF DISRUPTIVE PRICE
MOVEMENTS IN BASIC COMMODITIES, ENERGY CONSERVATION AND
DEVELOPMENT, AND STRENGTHENED TECHNOLOGICAL BASE IN POORER
COUNTRIES... CSMONITOR (ARTHUR EZENEKWE) REPORTED FROM
LAGOS MARCH 29: "PRESIDENT CARTER CAN LOOK FORWARD TO A
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GENERALLY WARM WELCOME FROM NIGERIANS...DESPITE EARLIER
OPPOSITION FROM STUDENTS DISSATISFIED WITH U.S. AFRICAN
POLICIES. BUT THE AMERICAN LEADER CAN ALSO EXPECT CANDID
ASSESSMENT OF WHATEVER PUBLIC STATEMENTS HE MAKES FROM
NIGERIA'S PRESS, WHICH IS LARGELY GOVERNMENT-OWNED BUT
USUALLY OUTSPOKEN... IN OFFICIAL CIRCLES, MEANWHILE, THERE
HAS BEEN A GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF AMERICA'S KEY ROLE AS

A TRADING PARTNER WITH NIGERIA. CERTAIN TO BE ON THE LIST OF TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED BY THE TWO LEADERS IN LAGOS WILL BE BILATERAL ECONOMIC AND TRADE RELATIONS."

3. RHODESIA. A.P. MARCH 29 FROM SALISBURY SAID THE RHODESIA HERALD REPORTED RHODESIAN SECURITY FORCES HAVE "ROUTED" 100 NATIONALIST GUERRILLAS WHO INFILTRATED FRONTIER FROM MOZAMBIQUE LAST WEEK. REPORT, CLEARED BY OFFICIAL CENSORS, SAID GUERRILLAS FLED AND ABANDONED SUPPLIES OF WEAPONS AND LEAFLETS. THERE WAS NO OFFICIAL MENTION OF CASUALTIES... NYTIMES MARCH 29 CARRIED FULL PAGE AD FOR BOOK "RHODESIA" BY ROBIN MOORE ("THE GREEN BERETS"). IN VERY LARGE TYPE, AD SAYS: "RHODESIA -- IS THIS BOOK BEING SUPPRESSED? MYTH VS. REALITY. 'WHY IS IT THAT THE U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE U.N. ANDREW YOUNG INSISTS THAT THIS TERRORIST LEADER BE ONE OF THE HEADS OF THE NEWEST NATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA?'" AD SAYS FOR ANSWER, READ NEW "BOMBSHELL" REPORT BY MOORE, PUBLISHED BY CONDOR PUBLISHING CO. AD SHOWS PHOTO OF JOSHUA NKOMO, ALLEGES NKOMO ADMIRATION OF IDI AMIN, SAYS BOOK HAS PREVIOUSLY UNPUBLISHED PHOTOS OF "THE ATROCITIES COMMITTED BY NKOMO AND HIS CO-LEADER OF THE MARXIST TERRORIST PATRIOTIC FRONT, ROBERT MUGABE." AD ALSO DECLARES AMB. YOUNG AND DAVID OWEN "UNWITTINGLY ARE WORKING TO INSTALL A MARXIST DICTATORSHIP IN RHODESIA AND MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO SABOTAGE THE PEACEFUL, MODERATE FORMULA" IN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT. CONFIDENTIAL

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4. NAMIBIA. JUNE GOODWIN IN MARCH 29 CSMONITOR WRITES THAT KILLING OF CHIEF KAPUWO "COULD BE USED BY SEVERAL PARTISAN GROUPS FOR THEIR OWN ENDS" IN NAMIBIA. "CHIEF KAPUWO HAD A NUMBER OF ENEMIES, EVEN IN HIS OWN HERERO TRIBE. SOME OF THEM CONSIDER THAT HE HAD BECOME TOO COOPERATIVE WITH SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT." ARTICLE SAYS THAT SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE IN WINDHOEK SAY IT IS "LOGICAL" KILLERS BELONG TO SWAPO; THAT KAPUWO'S DEATH COULD TEMPT SOUTH AFRICA TO ANNOUNCE ELECTION DATE; AND THAT ANOTHER RESULT COULD BE INCREASED HERERO-OVAMBO TRIBAL CONFLICT, WHICH SOUTH AFRICA MIGHT USE "AS JUSTIFICATION FOR FURTHER POLICE CLAMPDOWNS." MARCH 29 BOSTON GLOBE PRINTED DISPATCH FROM BEN POGRUND IN JOHANNESBURG SAYING THERE ARE SIGNS SAG "HAS ADOPTED A MORE RIGID ATTITUDE TOWARD NAMIBIA AND THAT IT WILL NOT COMPROMISE ON ITS EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT A FORM OF INDEPENDENCE AND GOVERNMENT THERE THAT WOULD BE THE MOST FAVORABLE TO SOUTH AFRICA...IF SOUTH AFRICA GOES IT ALONE, IT COULD LEAD TO MASSIVE PRESSURE AT THE UN FOR INTERNATIONAL SANCTIONS. THE WEST DOES NOT WANT THAT AND YET IT WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO VETO THEM IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL. IT WOULD ALSO REPRESENT A FUNDAMENTAL FAILURE FOR

THE WEST AND WOULD UNDERMINE ITS CREDIBILITY IN SOLVING THE OTHER RACIAL PROBLEMS OF THE AREA IN RHODESIA AND SOUTH AFRICA ITSELF." CSMONITOR EDITORIAL MARCH 29 SAYS "THE MURDER OF CHIEF KAPUWO COULD LEAD TO INTENSIFIED STRIFE BETWEEN TRIBES AND POLITICAL FACTIONS IN NAMIBIA -- OR TO A NEW RESOLVE BY ALL CONCERNED THAT THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE MUST STOP. THE RIGHT CHOICE IS OBVIOUS BUT NOT EASY. IT REQUIRES NOT ONLY ADHERENCE TO INTERNATIONAL LAW AND RENUNCIATION OF TERROR TACTICS BUT THE SUPPORT OF WORLD OPINION AND PRAYER."

5. MIDEAST. MEDIA FOCUSED ON BEGIN APPEAL TO SADAT TO

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10
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DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /135 W
-----032188 300202Z /22

O 300048Z MAR 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0361

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01160

FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

RESUME CONTACTS AND TO PRESENT COUNTERPROPOSALS TO PEACE PLAN SUBMITTED BY ISRAEL. MEDIA ALSO EMPHASIZED ARAFAT PLEDGE TO ACCEPT GENERAL CEASEFIRE. BALTSUN (MICHAEL PARKS) WROTE FROM JERUSALEM MARCH 29 THAT "ISRAELIS ARE INCREASINGLY SEEING THEIR INVASION OF SOUTHERN LEBANON AS A FAILURE AND A MISTAKE," AND BEGIN, "ALREADY EMBATTLED BECAUSE OF HIS HARDLINE APPROACH TO PEACE NEGOTIATIONS, IS UNDER SHARP ATTACK WITHIN HIS OWN PARTY AS A RESULT. NOT ONLY DID THE OPERATION FAIL TO DESTROY PALESTINIAN GUERRILLA MOVEMENT AND TO GUARANTEE THE SECURITY OF ISRAEL'S NORTHERN SETTLEMENTS, THE CRITICS SAY, BUT IT GREATLY ERODED ISRAEL'S STANDING INTERNATIONALLY AT A TIME WHEN IT IS ON THE DIPLOMATIC DEFENSIVE." NYTIMES MARCH 29 REPORTED COCA-COLA COMPANY IS TRYING TO GAIN RE-ENTRY INTO MIDEAST MARKETS, STARTING IN SAUDI ARABIA AND

EGYPT.

6. "ZIMBABWE TIMES" INTERVIEW. IN BOTH EDITORIAL COMMENT AND NEWS ARTICLES, SOME LONDON PAPERS ATTACKED AMB. YOUNG. DAILY MAIL NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT: "ANDREW YOUNG, AMERICA'S VOLATILE AMBASSADOR, YESTERDAY VICIOUSLY HACKED CONFIDENTIAL

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AT THE KNOT THAT MR. CALLAGHAN AND PRESIDENT CARTER TIED OVER RHODESIA LAST WEEK. IN A REMARKABLE, SAVAGE INTERVIEW, HE SABOTAGED THE GOOD WILL THE TWO LEADERS CEMENTED IN WASHINGTON AND PERSONALLY EMBARRASSED THE PRESIDENT." DAILY TELEGRAPH EDITORIAL: "A BULL IN A CHINA SHOP IS A RELATIVELY INOFFENSIVE AND HARMLESS CREATURE COMPARED WITH ANDREW YOUNG ON HIS SELF-RIGHTEOUS AFRICAN CRUSADE. THE BULL COULD WELL PLEAD THAT HE WAS OUT OF HIS ELEMENT AND THE HAVOC UNPREMEDITATED. MR. YOUNG, BY CONTRAST, IS CONVINCED THAT HE HAS THE MISSION TO RESTORE FREEDOM, PEACE AND PLENTY TO AFRICA AFTER EUROPEAN COLONIALISM. THERE SEEMED REASON TO HOPE THAT AFTER HIS MANY PAST GAFFES...AND INSULTS...PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD INSIST ON MORE RESTRAINT AND BETTER MANNERS." DAILY TELEGRAPH STORY: "MR. ANDREW YOUNG, AMERICA'S UN AMBASSADOR, SET THE FOREIGN OFFICE'S COLLECTIVE TEETH ON EDGE AGAIN YESTERDAY WITH ANOTHER DISPLAY OF GRATING TACTLESSNESS OVER RHODESIA." DAILY EXPRESS SALISBURY CORRESPONDENT: "AS ANDREW YOUNG, LOUDMOUTH OF AMERICAN POLITICS, YESTERDAY ACCUSED BRITAIN OF WANTING TO WASH ITS HANDS OF RHODESIA, THE COUNTRY'S SECURITY FORCES WERE FIGHTING OFF A STRONG GUERRILLA ATTACK." DAILY EXPRESS EDITORIAL: "MR. ANDREW YOUNG IS THE PAST MASTER OF THE DELIBERATE ACCIDENTAL AFFRONT. HOW MANY INSULTING THINGS HAS HE SAID ABOUT THE BRITISH ONLY TO FOLLOW THE SNARL WITH A SMIRK AND TO TELL THE WORLD THAT HE HAS BEEN MISREPRESENTED?" END UNCLASSIFIED.

7. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. UKUN OFFICER CALLED USUN PACOUN MORNING OF MARCH 29 TO SAY BRITISH MEDIA WERE BEING SEVERELY CRITICAL OF AMB. YOUNG OVER ZIMBABWE TIMES INTERVIEW, AND INDEED SOME BRITISH PRESS COMMENTS WERE "PERSONAL INSULTS" TO AMB. YOUNG. UKUN OFFICER WANTED US TO KNOW THAT SOME OF THE MORE INSULTING COMMENTS WOULD CONFIDENTIAL

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BE DELETED FROM UKUN'S DAILY BRITISH PRESS SUMMARY, WHICH IS DISTRIBUTED AROUND THE U.N. END CONFIDENTIAL. LEONARD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USUNN01160
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780137-0349
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978036/aaaaaeto.tel
Line Count: 224
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7fe5a1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3305320
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEDIA REACTION
TAGS: OVIP, (YOUNG, ANDREW)
To: LAGOS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7fe5a1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014